

REMARKS

The acknowledgment of the claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 and the receipt of the priority document is noted with appreciation.

The specification has been amended in several places to correct grammatical errors and make it clearer. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1, 3 to 16, 18, and 19 are active in the application. Claims 2 and 17 have been canceled, and claims 1, 4 to 9, 16, and 19 have been amended. More specifically, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 2, and the limitations of claim 17 have been incorporated into claim 16. Claims 9 and 19 have been amended to reflect the amendments to claims 1 and 16, respectively, and claims 4 to 8 have been amended primarily to correct their dependencies after the cancellation of claim 2.

Claims 1 to 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,128,743 to Rothenbaum. The rejection is respectfully traversed on the grounds that Rothenbaum does not show or suggest the claimed invention.

The disclosed and claimed invention solves a specific problem related to the IEEE-1394 Standard serial bus. More particularly, the claimed invention is directed to a bus power-supply device structured to supply power from a power-supply voltage of a node to a serial bus connected to the node through a physical layer and a plurality of connectors conductive to each other of the node, wherein

a) when no power-supply voltage of the node is supplied, a DC voltage is supplied from the IEEE-1394 Standard serial bus to the physical layer, and

b) when the power-supply voltage is supplied, a path for supplying a DC voltage from the serial bus to the physical layer is cut off to supply a DC voltage from the power-supply voltage to the physical layer.

In the bus power supply control by the USB (Universal Serial Bus) Standard shown in Rothenbaum, the host side bus and the peripheral equipment are separated. The supply direction of a power supply is one way from a host to

peripheral equipment (i.e., host-to-hub and hub-to-peripheral equipment). Even if peripheral equipment is operating by its own power supply, a power supply is not supplied to the bus. When the power supply of the hub is OFF, the switch of the hub turns on and the bus power supply from the host is supplied to the peripheral equipment side bus. When the power supply of the hub is ON, by the switch of the hub, the bus power supply from the host is intercepted and the power supply of the hub is supplied to the peripheral equipment. Consequently, the bus power supply in a system is shared and supplied by a plurality of power supplies. Rothenbaum discloses a bus power supply based on the above USB Standard. The bus power supply control by the USB Standard disclosed in Rothenbaum performs the change of a bus power supply and a power supply of one hub.

In the case of the IEEE-1394 Standard, a bus power supply is supplied to all the devices connected to the bus, and when bus power supply voltage is higher than a device's own power supply voltage, a physical layer operates by the bus power supply. That is, the power supply of the device which has the highest voltage among the devices connected to the bus supplies the power supply of all the physical layers connected to the bus. Therefore, the power supply of the device which has the highest voltage needs excessively high power in order to supply the power of all physical layers.

In the power supply of a physical layer, the claimed invention does not consume a bus power supply regardless of the size of the voltage of the bus power supply, when operating by its own power supply.

In the hub located in the middle of the system of Rothenbaum, either a bus power supply or a cell power supply is selected according to the state of a self power supply, and the selected power supply is supplied to a down-stream hub port. Therefore, when the low-ranking hub port output is changed to the self power supply, the hub intercepts between an upstream hub port and down-stream hub ports.

In the IEEE-1394 Standard, the bus power supply is always connected to all devices. The claimed invention controls power supply switching in a physical

layer in the IEEE-1394 Standard.

When the internal power supply is OFF, the physical layer of the invention operates by a bus power supply. On the other hand, when the internal power supply is ON, so as that it may not operate by a bus power supply based on the high or low of power supply voltage, the physical layer of the invention separates a bus power supply compulsorily, and supplies the power supply of the physical layer with the internal power supply.

As mentioned above, Rothenbaum is considerably different from the power supply control by the IEEE-1394 Standard of this invention in object, function and structure. Specifically, in the bus power supply control by the USB Standard of Rothenbaum, switching of bus power supply and a controller power supply is performed. On the other hand, in the power supply control by the IEEE-1394 Standard of this invention, switching of a bus power supply is not performed but switching of only the power supply supplied to a physical layer is performed.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered, that claims 1, 4, 5, and 7 to 18 be allowed, and that the application be passed to issue.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.



A provisional petition is hereby made for any extension of time necessary for the continued pendency during the life of this application. Please charge any fees for such provisional petition and any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-2041.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Lamont Whitham".

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